

## Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

/020 W

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R 051805Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5523

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2975

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SOPN, AR, SZ

SUBJECT: SWISS JOURNALIST EXPELLED FROM ARGENTINA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1951

1. SWISS JOURNALIST LUC BANDERET WAS EXPELLED FROM ARGENTINA APRIL 30. THE OFFICIAL GOA COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT HE "TOOK ADVANTAGE OF HIS SITUATION AS A JOURNALIST IN MAINTAINING CONTACTS WITH EXTREMIST ELEMENTS WITH THE AIM OF SECURING INFORMATION ABOUT REPRESSIVE OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE

VARIOUS SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS."

2. SOURCES AT SWISS EMBASSY HAVE INFORMED US THAT BANDERET WAS FIRST ARRESTED ON APRIL 15 AND HELD AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS. SWISS EMBASSY OFFICIALS BECAME AWARE OF HIS DETENTION ONLY THROUGH WHAT THEY DESCRIBED AS AN "ANONYMOUS CONTACT" TWO DAYS LATER AND THEY WERE THEN ABLE TO ARRANGE CONSULAR VISITATION.

3. LOCAL NEWS SOURCES HAVE CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF THAT BANDERET WAS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE MONTONEROS AND WAS GATHERING INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC ACTS OF MILITARY REPRESSION TO BE USED AGAINST THE GOVT ONCE HE LEFT THE COUNTRY. ONE NEWSMAN WHO SAW SOME OF THE MATERIAL DEVELOPED BY BANDERET SAID THAT IT WAS "WELL DOCUMENTED." HE ADDED,  
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HOWEVER, THAT BANDERET WAS QUITE NAIVE AND SPOKE SO

OPENLY ABOUT HIS PROJECT THAT IT DIDN'T SURPRISE HIM  
THAT LATTER WAS PICKED UP.

4. COMMENT. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE GOA GOT WIND OF BANDERET'S  
PLANS THROUGH HIS OWN NAIVE INDISCRETION. HIS APPARENT  
INTENTION TO DO A HATCHET JOB ON THE MILITARY WAS THE  
CAUSE OF HIS ARREST AND EXPULSION FROM THE COUNTRY. THE  
GOA'S REACTION, THEREFORE, IS UNDERSTANDABLE AND DOES NOT  
NECESSARILY REFLECT ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE FOREIGN NEWS  
MEDIA IN GENERAL (SEE REFTEL).  
HILL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPULSION, JOURNALISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 MAY 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, SOPN, AR, SZ, (BANDERET, LUC)  
**To:** STATE  
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